

fitting, the appliance would otherwise be cleaned for delivery to the patient. A bruxism appliance 10 having a polymeric base 12 is preferably manufactured from an acrylic resin.

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In accordance with the invention, a coating 14 is applied to the opposing teeth contacting surfaces of the polymeric base 12 to a desired thickness by hand brushing, spray painting or dipping. Typically, this thickness is sufficient to fully coat the desired surfaces of the appliance but not overly thick so as to affect the fit of the appliance. The coating 14 is allowed to dry or cure as appropriate for the specific composition.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 8 as follows. Please delete claims 9-11.

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1. (Amended) A bruxism appliance comprising a molded polymeric base for placement and fitting to a patient's upper or lower dentition, the molded polymeric base including an abradable overlayer applied after fitting the molded polymeric base to the upper or lower dentition, the overlayer being a different colour to the polymeric base whereby use of the appliance by a patient indicates the degree of bruxism by the patient by abrasion of the overlayer.
 2. (Amended) A bruxism appliance as in claim 1 where the molded polymeric base is selected from any one of or a combination of acrylic resin or plastic.
 3. (Amended) A bruxism appliance as in claim 1 wherein the abradable overlayer is selected from any one of or a combination of an acrylic resin, natural resin or composite.
 4. (Amended) A bruxism appliance as in claim 1 wherein the overlayer has a hardness softer than the molded polymeric base.
 5. (Amended) A bruxism appliance as in claim 4 wherein the overlayer includes an acrylic resin blended with a titanium oxide pigment.
 6. (Amended) A bruxism appliance as in claim 1 further comprising a pH indicator bound to the appliance for indicating the pH of a patient's mouth during use of the appliance.